

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A tubular body formed from a sheet metal blank having a pair of stamped sleeve parts having axial end surfaces and connected by a web, said tubular body comprising

a pair of stamped circumferentially closed sleeve parts connected by a connecting web, said sleeve parts being coaxial and having respective axial end surfaces which are mutually facing to form a circumferentially closed joint eye, wherein each said sleeve part has an axial length, most of said length extending between said connecting web and the respective mutually facing end.

Claim 2 (original): A tubular body as in claim 1 further comprising one of a spring element and a damping element pressed into said sleeve parts and holding said sleeve parts together under tension.

Claim 3 (original): A tubular body as in claim 2 wherein said one of said spring element and said damping element comprises axial stops which hold said sleeve parts together under tension, said axial stops being located outside of said sleeve parts, oppositely from said mutually facing end surfaces.

Claim 4 (original): A tubular body as in claim 1 wherein said sleeve parts have respective opposed end surfaces facing oppositely from said mutually facing end surfaces, and respective inside walls extending between said mutually facing end surfaces and said opposed end surfaces, each said sleeve part having a transition surface pressed into the opposed end surface and leading into the inside wall.

Claim 5 (original): A tubular body as in claim 1 wherein said sleeve parts are welded together.

Claim 6 (original): A tubular body as in claim 1 wherein said web comprises a stamped pass-through opening.

Claim 7 (original): A tubular body as in claim 6 wherein said pass-through opening has an expanded diameter adjacent to said sleeve parts.

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (original): A tubular body as in claim 1 wherein said web comprises mutually opposed side edges having respective parallel flats for applying a wrench.

Claim 10 (original): A tubular body as in claim 1 wherein said connecting web comprises a transverse web which can serve as a retainer during fabrication of the tubular body.

Claims 11-15 (cancelled)